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Public Health Reports

Treasury Department, United States Marine-Hospital Service. Published in accordance with act of Congress approved February 15, 1893.

VOL. XIV.

WASHINGTON, D. C., JANUARY 6, 1899.

NO. 1.

UNITED STATES.

[Reports to the Supervising Surgeon-General, United States Marine-Hospital Service.]

Influenza (la grippe).

This disease is reported by newspapers present in epidemic form in many places. In Philadelphia it is stated that 20 per cent of the school children have the disease. It is also reported as attacking many persons in New York, Washington, and of other cities. The health officials of New York and Philadelphia have taken the ground that la grippe is contagious, and recommend isolation of persons suffering with the disease, fumigation of rooms, and public vehicles—in a word, the usual precautions observed in the treatment of infectious and contagious diseases. As in the pandemic of 1889–90, la grippe seems to have started in the East, having been reported in Turkey about the middle of November, and has spread westward, following the established lines of travel.

In another part of this number of the PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS may be found abstracts from the reports of medical officers of the Marine-Hospital Service and State boards of health.

GRIPPE.

Circular letter addressed to medical officers, acting assistant surgeons, and sanitary inspectors of the Marine-Hospital Service, and secretaries State boards of health.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 24, 1898.

SIR: You are requested to report, as soon as practicable, whether influenza or la grippe is prevalent in your locality, giving the type of